

REMARKS

A telephone interview between Examiner Nguyen and Dennis Smid (one of the applicant's undersigned attorneys) was held on February 19, 2004. The applicant and Mr. Smid wish to thank the Examiner for his time and consideration for such interview.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, and 15-20 are in this application.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, and 15-20 were rejected as being based upon a defective reissue declaration under 35 U.S.C. 251.

A new Supplemental Declaration accompanies this amendment which incorporates the language set forth in the present Office Action. Further, and as discussed during the February 19th interview, this Declaration is unsigned. As also discussed during the February 19th interview, upon being notified that this Declaration is acceptable, a signed copy thereof will be forwarded to the Examiner.

The Examiner stated that the original patent or a statement as to its loss or inaccessibility must be received before this reissue application can be allowed. As discussed during the February 19th interview, the present application is a continuation of a reissue application which has issued as U.S. Patent Re 37,810E on July 30, 2002. As also discussed during the February 19th interview, during prosecution of the parent reissue application the original Letters Patent of U.S. Patent No. 5,434,677 was surrendered to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office on February 7, 2001 with a Supplemental Amendment.

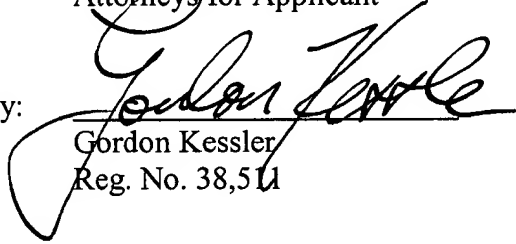
The Examiner stated that the amendment to the specification filed June 18, 2002 is improper because the amendment does not provide underlining to the new addition and brackets to the deletion. Accordingly, such amendment is presented herein with underlining and brackets to indicate the new addition and deletions.

In view of the foregoing, entry of this amendment, favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-4, 6-8, and 15-20 and the allowance of this application with claims 1-4, 6-8, 15-20 are respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,
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